

Remarks

After amendment, claims 54-87 remain pending in the present application. The presently pending claims are directed to identical subject matter previously filed with the exception that the value for k in claims 54 and 70 has been changed to reflect a broader range of 0-12, as opposed to 0-2 in the previously submitted claims. The range of 0-2 for k is now incorporated into dependent claims 55, 64, 71 and 80. No other change been made to the claims. Support for the amendment to the claims may be found in the specification at page 6, in the middle of the page. No new matter has been added to the present invention. This amendment does not materially alter any of the arguments made in the previously filed amendment/response. Applicants reference the comments of the previously filed response here.

Applicant respectfully asserts that the claims set forth in the amendment to the application of the present invention are now in compliance with 35 U.S.C. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. No claims have been added or deleted from the present application. In their previous submission, Applicants cancelled 53 claims and added 34 claims (two independent).

No fee is due for the presentation of this amendment. If any fee is due or any overpayment has been made, please charge/credit Deposit Account No. 04-0838.

Respectfully submitted,

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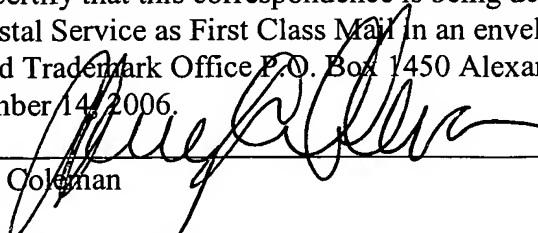
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: "United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450" on December 14, 2006.


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